

ble stories to be taught to children by Christian parents. I learned it at my mother's knee and the impression it made then can never be forgotten.

The Bible narrative as it brings Joseph before you stately and beautiful then relates the experiences of his life from childhood in Canaan to his death in Egypt, sounds both fairy like and romantic. It is pathetic and splendid, filled with lessons from beginning to end that lift one from good resolves to nobler actions, and where is the child that has not listened to these with admiration and wonder tho they have been told to him time and again.

This is why I think the story of his life has played such an important part in the history of men, for men are but boys grown tall, and every thought in youth is but the laying of a brick in the great structure of life.

But we must not conceive of Joseph as being passively good, with no trials to face, no temptations to overcome. Far from it. He had these, many and severe. And it is in the fact that he met them and heroically overcame them that his greatness lies.

I doubt not that his environment both social and hereditary were much against him. It is a law of science for the child to inherit the characteristic of its progenitors, this being true, I doubt not that Joseph had to contend with a spirit of deceptiveness and deceit that we saw his father exhibit when he cheated Esau out of the Birthright. His brethren possessed it, why should not Joseph?

But let us follow our hero to Egypt, into Pharaoh's court there to see him go thru the refiners fire, only to come out of the hot crucible as pure gold.

We sometimes sing "Dare to be a Daniel, might we not as well sing "Dare to be a Joseph?

Confronted by a temptation that has slain its thousands perhaps tens of thousands to where other temptations have slain their one, Joseph remains as firm as a adamant. He stands like a tower, faces sin with a boldness of a Gibraltar, comes off victorious like a saint.

His soul seems invulnerable to the shafts of Satan, a good name, a spotless character and a clear conscience before God is worth more than the world to him. The ability, however, to say no in such a time is not an inborn, innate characteristic of man. Our harvest of today is but the ripened grain of yesterday's sowing. Just as in the manufacturing of steel, strength and durability are obtained by much working, so in the manufacture of character, strength and durability to withstand the great trials of life can be secured only by a constant turning away from all that is impure and mean and low, and enthroning in our souls innermost chamber a desire, a longing for the good, the pure and beautiful.

We may safely conclude then that Joseph's prudence and skill in later years was the inevitable result of a well spent youth.

When Joseph received the pit and prison for integrity and loyalty to manhood, I doubt not that the sun of his ambition sank very low in the western sea and finally disappeared. But if it did I believe the stars in the infinite ocean of God's love came out and shone for him with clearer brightness than ever before.

Ever since the world began, God has left no crime go unfinished nor good deed unrewarded, even so with Joseph. His brethren first resolved to take his life, but instead cast him in the pit. As is often the case, the very reverse happened to what was desired. The pit proved to be a "good opening" for Joseph literally as well as metaphorically it was the opening of the way for him to go to Egypt. Here again he met with disappointments, but but again good results came of evil intent. The prison opened the way for him to appear before the King, there to interpret the King's dream which meant a seven years famine.

Because Joseph had faithfully served his vitality in youth, had proven himself capable to hold the position, Pharaoh made Joseph ruler over all the land and gave him power and authority next unto the King himself.

Joseph was now at the zenith of his greatness. The sun of his ambition that sank beneath the horizon when he was thrown into prison, now rose in the Eastern sky and ascended to the meridian of Heaven where it shone forth with exceeding brightness.

The great work of his life, that for which God had kept him was now before him. That work was to preserve life and especially the Hebrew race. This race gave to the world the religion of Jehovah out of which grew the Christian religion. The civilizing, refining and uplifting influence of this religion on the world cannot be estimated.

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#### ASHLAND COLLEGE ENDOWMENT

J. L. GILLIN

I can say "Amen" to every word our editor has written in his editorials concerning the necessity and the feasibility of giving Ashland College an adequate endowment. He has not put it too strongly. We, as a church must have a Christian college, a training school for our future preachers, our future business men and our future farmers, or, — die. And we have the money to properly equip and endow it if it can be reached. And it can be reached, if some good man among us will go after it. This gives me opportunity to say some things I have been saying privately the past three years and about which I have been silent publicly until like the Psalmist my bones have waxed old.

1. We shall not achieve the largest success in securing the much needed endowment until the church or one of the boards of the church shall send out a capable man to talk the needs of the college thru the churches of our brotherhood. This ought to be appar-

ent from the analogy of the world's business. "The children of this world are wiser in this generation than the children of light." When a business or manufacturing house wants business, they send out *men* to get it. This method costs more money than newspaper editorials and pastoral exhortation, but the beauty of it is that it *wins*. And if we would learn from other churches we would discover that they have found this to be true. Take two Methodist schools of Iowa for example, Upper Iowa University and Cornell College. The first had no financial agent for a number of years. In fact it was controlled by a constituency who believed a college ought to be self supporting. The result was that no endowment came. The second named kept a financial agent in the field continuously. It became apparent in a few years that Cornell was getting the best in the race for Methodist favors. Endowments began to drop in, students flocked there and today Cornell College is in a close race with one of our first colleges for the first place. U. I. U. has begun to wake up and learned from her competitor that she too must go after endowment if she wants it. And we too must learn it. We have here in my own congregation men, I doubt not, who would help the College, but the over-worked pastor has already enough on his hands without taking Ashland's burden in addition, tho my heart is with Ashland and I'm willing to do all I can to help her.

2. What I have said concerning the College is true of Missions and the Publishing House also, or I am no prophet. It must be worked personally. Nothing has yet been found to take the place of a *man* to do some things.

3. I believe Providence has prepared us a man for the business at hand. I am informed that Brother Cassel has his business now shaped so that he could give at least part of his time to some such work. Further he could look after the interests of all three, College, Missions and Publishing House at the same time. He is thoroughly acquainted with the business of each and we all know his interest in them all. Let the boards of missions and publication and college trustees send him out. It is my earnest conviction that we shall not succeed until some such plan is adopted.

#### BIBLICAL ESSAY—Continued

J. B. WAMPLER

John, having been previously taught of God concerning this Jesus of Nazareth, was expecting to see him coming, and when he came, perhaps from his demeanor, he recognized in him something more than ordinary. Hence, to ascertain if possible whether he was the Christ that he expected and had already proclaimed to the Jews, and upon whom many already believed, John said, I have need to be baptized (dipped) of thee, and comest thou to me? Jesus said, Suffer, or permit it now: for thus it becometh us to